ReBuilding HIWP For Our Next Century







HEBREW INSTITUTE OF WHITE PLAINS

20 GREENRIDGE AVENUE, WHITE PLAINS, NY 10605

914 948-3095 WWW.HIWP.ORG

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The Hebrew Institute of White Plains ("HIWP"), founded in 1915, moved to its present location at 20 Greenridge Avenue in 1950. The building was modestly renovated in 1973 and again in 1992. HIWP now inhabits a 66 year old building, designed for a different era, which does not adequately meet the needs or convey the spirit of our growing synagogue community.

HIWP is an integral part of the White Plains Jewish Community. Since its founding, it has enjoyed a well deserved reputation as an Orthodox congregation that warmly welcomes all Jews, regardless of level of observance or Jewish knowledge. The Synagogue offers an ongoing array of programming for members of all ages, as well as educational opportunities, scholars-in-residence weekends and vibrant youth programming.

HIWP is committed to providing women with opportunities for religious growth and leadership within the community and is proud of its thriving Women's Tefillah, which is held on a regularly scheduled basis, on Shabbat mornings. In addition to Women's Tefillah, HIWP sponsors many other programs specifically designed for women.

Many young families have joined HIWP in recent years and we work hard to meet their needs as well. Our extensive youth programming attracts over 150 children ranging in age from infants through teens on a weekly basis.

HIWP is a vital, dynamic organization, committed to inclusive Orthodox Judaism. Due to our growth and success, our building presents many challenges. The sanctuary cannot accommodate the number of congregants coming to shul on a weekly basis. The facilities for Women's Tefillah are cramped and aesthetically unpleasing. The kitchen is woefully inadequate. The Youth lounge and lower level rooms need significant repairs as does the outside wall facing the playground.

HIWP is now entering its second century. We recognize that to further develop and actualize our mission, and serve our growing kehillah, we need to re-create our facility. With this renovation and ReBuilding, we are reimagining every element of our Beit Knesset, and look forward to a renovated synagogue that meets the needs of our entire community, now and for many years to come.

The Plans for ReBuilding

"Create Me a holy space, and I will dwell in your midst"... Exodus 25:8

In ReBuilding, we are seeking to create a prayer environment in which our religious aspirations and values are reinforced and manifest in every way. The mechitza will run down the middle of the sanctuary, and the amud will be centered in the room, making the important statement that the space is the focus of prayer for the entire community, men and women. The design will seek to inspire and uplift. And, perhaps most importantly, we are working hard to maximize both seating and better flow to meet the needs of our growing numbers.

In addition, we are planning a **Center for Study and Prayer** on our lower level which will be the hub of our daily religious experiences in the shul. It will be the home of our daily minyan, our Torah classes and lectures, and a Judaica library. On Shabbat, the space will serve our Hashkamah Minyan, Teen Minyan, Women's Tefillah, and Novice Service. This space will be filled with light, provide generous seating, and have easy access.

In our **ReBuilding** plans we have placed a premium on enhancing community gathering spaces. The result will be a beautiful, totally reconceived entrance hall that will weave together with our Social Hall, creating the spaces that serve the community values that we share.

Along with all of this, the building will have new space for our offices and food service. It will house classrooms and Shabbat youth spaces for our growing youth population and will provide for the needs of our community Thrift Shop as well.

This is the opportunity of a lifetime for all of us. With your participation in this campaign each of us individually and all of us collectively, can make a difference and enhance our lives here at HIWP. As we go forward with this project, your participation will make a difference for our community today and for those that join us in the future. You are the leaders paving the way for HIWP in our second century.

ReBuilding Highlights Dedication Opportunities Renovation FAQs

- Newly constructed & re-designed sanctuary with expanded seating capacity & acoustic partition
- Newly designed entrances
- Light-filled entrance & lobby area
- Reconstructed Social Hall
- Beit Midrash/Center for Study & Prayer
- New lower level lobby & entrance
- Lower level office suite
- Lower level multi-purpose rooms
- Shabbat elevator
- New kitchen
- New HVAC
- New bathrooms on both levels
- Accessible for mobility impaired

As presently conceived and planned, this ReBuilding Project will cost between \$4 and \$5 million dollars. Since fundraising began in June of 2015, we have succeeded in raising pledges covering more than half our goal. We hope for 100% member participation in this campaign and we count on every member to reach our goal. Solicitations will continue through 2016. If you would like to meet with members of the fundraising team and you have not been contacted, please get in touch with

Marc Guthartz 914-643-7404 mguthartz@optonline.net

Keith Reich 914-350-7132 ReichK@gtlaw.com

Or the synagogue office 914-948-3095

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50K	of our working groups. Congregational forums are
OK	planned as we move ahead and members of the
	Board and Renovation Steering Committee are
	always interested in hearing from you.
	Donor Recognition – Debbie Guthartz
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00k	(914) 949-9670 dguthartz@optonline.net
25K	Finance – Todd Stern (914) 831-0707
00K	toddstern@yahoo.com
00K	Fundraising – Marc Guthartz
OK .	(914) 949-9670 mguthartz@optonline.net
5 <i>K</i>	& Keith Reich (914) 761-3708 reichk@gtlaw.com
	Interiors, Furniture, Fixtures – Audrey Reich
50K	(914) 761-3708 audreymreich@gmail.com
00K	Kitchen – Alex Kahn (914) 437-5796
00K	
00K	lex555@aol.com
00K	Mikveh (exploratory) – Yael Slonim
5K/room	(914) 949-1410
, OK	<u>yrslonim@gmail.com</u>
	Sanctuary – Beth Hurvitz (914) 632-4140
00K	hurvee@gmail.com
00K	Sustainability – Ari Weiss (718) 704-4879
50K	aweiss1@gmail.com
00K	
00K	Youth – Aaron Steinberg (914) 761-1502
5K	steinberg.aaron@gmail.com
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Architect Peter Gisolfi Associates (PGA)

Costs include allowances for new mechanical, electrical, and plumbing; new sanctuary, new social hall, and new kitchen; and a renovated lower level. Estimates also include allowances for architects and engineers, and legal fees necessary to secure approvals from the City of White Plains, and mid-range allowances for new furniture and fixtures (e.g. a new aron, pews, lighting, etc.)

Sustainability considerations are being given to construction materials and mechanical systems. The Renovation Steering Committee and PGA are committed to evaluating the feasibility of environmentally sustainable materials.

Pledges are needed to secure financing to achieve our goals. They are expected to be paid off over the course of a maximum of 5 years. Some may be reluctant to take on multi-year charitable commitments, but if a congregant finds it impossible to fulfill their pledge, we will work with them. This is a community effort of a caring community and we will all act accordingly. There will be a building fund or assessment to complete the renovation funding.

Construction will begin once construction and engineering plans have been finalized, a contractor has been hired, and sufficient funds have been secured. This is expected to be fall of 2016 at the earliest.

Our Renovation Committee includes Todd Stern, chairperson/Project Manager, Rabbi Marder, Bernard Adler, Stephen Apple, Larry Fish, Lisa Gilbert, Beth Hurvitz, Paul Orentlicher, Dena Rabinowitz, Keith Reich, Dean Ungar, Deborah Weinberger, Michael Weintraub, and Wendy Leibowitz.

Congregational life during construction will of course continue and will pose challenges and will involve compromise and planning. We will find ways to continue davening together on weekdays and Shabbat, and will work hard to craft solutions with congregants to celebrate life cycle events together. The Renovation Steering Committee will work with our contractor to craft a plan for how to meet the needs of our congregants during construction.